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## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

### DANIEL DESMOND.

Daniel Desmond, an honored member of this Society of Pioneers, died on the 23rd of January, 1903, in the 70th year of his age.

Mr. Desmond was born in County Cork, Ireland, October 9, 1833. Having begun the trade of a hatter, at the age of 18 he came to Boston, completed his trade, and went into business at Lawrence, Mass., as manager of the firm of Desmond Bros., in the manufacture of hats. The destruction of the factory by fire compelled him to start new, and it was at that period in his life he came to Los Angeles.

Mr. Desmond came to this city October 14, 1868, and has resided here continuously ever since. Immediately upon his arrival he opened an exclusive hat and gentlemen's furnishing store, the first of the kind in the city. He continued in its active management until a few years ago, after it had grown into a large and flourishing establishment, when ill health compelled him to relinquish in favor of his son, C. C. Desmond.

His widow and eight children survive him, all residents of this city, except two married daughters. The children are C. C. Desmond, D. J. Desmond; Misses Nellie, Nora, Kate and Anna Desmond; Mrs. A. M. Shields of San Francisco, and Mrs. C. D. Baker of Arizona.

Mr. Desmond was a man of probity and good repute and a good citizen in all the relations of life. As a quiet, Christian gentleman he commanded the sincere respect of all who knew him. This society extends its heartfelt sympathy to his family in their great bereavement.

H. D. BARROWS,  
W. H. WORKMAN,  
Committee.

### JESSIE BENTON FREMONT.

This society of Los Angeles Pioneers, in common with all Californians and all Americans, has sincere cause for mourning on the occasion of the death, at the age of 78 years, of Mrs.

General Fremont, which occurred at her home in this city December 27, 1902.

The names of both General and Mrs. Fremont, so intimately and so romantically associated with early California history, will always possess peculiar interest for us and for our children and for our children's children.

Senator Thomas H. Benton, Mrs. Fremont's father, Gen. John C. Fremont, her husband, and Jessie Benton Fremont herself, probably had more to do with the acquisition of Alta California in 1846 by the United States, than any other three persons who took part in the stirring events of that dramatic period.

Jessie Benton Fremont was a noble woman of high intellectuality and culture, and of amiable disposition, who, because of the possession of these admirable qualities, and because of her prominence in our early national and State history, may well be classed, as doubtlessly she will be by the future historian, alongside of Martha Washington and Dollie Madison, as one of the grand dames of the republic.

Inasmuch as the Fremont family made their home in Los Angeles since December, 1887, they, and each of them, seem especially dear to our people; and the warm affection we all feel for the father and mother will be continued with unabated strength to the devoted daughter, whose loving solicitude and care solaced the last years of both her parents, as the infirmities of age undermined their health and strength; wherefore, it is hereby

Resolved, by the Society of Pioneers of Los Angeles County, that the heartfelt sympathies of the members of the Society are respectfully tendered to the children and grandchildren of the deceased in this, their great affliction.

H. D. BARROWS,  
K. D. WISE,  
Committee.

#### CALEB E. WHITE.

Caleb E. White, a California Pioneer of 1849, was born at Holbrook, Mass., February 15, 1830. His father, Jonathan White, was the son of a Revolutionary soldier. His mother, Abigail Holbrook, was a descendant of the man after whom the town of Holbrook was named. Caleb received his education in the grammar and high school of his native town. When